

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [00033] of the specification as follows:

[00033] Referring to FIG. 4, lifting the common base 18 with the housing 12 relative to the support surface 17 causes the feed roll 35 to displace so that the feed angle ( $\beta_1$ ) of the strip 20, defined between a tangent 15 to a curved stretch of the strip 20 and a vertical axis V [[13]], progressively changes. As a consequence, the tags 23 guided over the feed roller 35, undergo an initial bending which, by itself, is not sufficient to completely sever the tags, but contributes to a final separation of the tags down a path from the feed roller 35. Displacement of the housing 12 can be realized by a variety of means 120, which are configured to function as a piston and cylinder unit coupled to and displacing the common base 38 to the desired position of the feed roller 35 relative to the roll 21.